

ROOKANTHA GUNATHILAKE

MARIO GLORY ROOKANTHA GUNATHILAKE — OFFICIAL BIOGRAPHY & PRESS KIT

Genre: Sri Lankan Pop / Synth-Pop

Active Era: 1976 – Present

Concert Brand: Ru Sanda Rae (රු සඳ රැ)

Roles: Singer, Composer, Keyboards

Birth Date: September 5, 1959

Global Shows: 300+ Concerts (15+ Countries)

40+

YEARS OF MUSIC

150K+

COPIES SOLD (BAMBARA PAHASA)

300+

GLOBAL ARENA SHOWS

12

TOURING COUNTRIES

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY | ශිල්පී චරිතාපදානය

1. The Catalyst of Modern Pop: Before the synths blared and stadium lights flickered across packed arenas, Sri Lankan pop music walked a quiet, traditional line. Enter Mario Glory Rookantha Gunathilake. Emerging in the late 1970s as a gifted keyboardist and composer, Rookantha did not merely enter the music industry—he disrupted it. In 1985, an impromptu studio recording forced him behind the microphone for his original composition “*Bambara Pahasa*”, unveiling a voice that possessed both haunting vulnerability and electrifying range. Almost overnight, Sri Lanka found its first modern pop titan, whose pioneering use of electronic synthesis, dynamic basslines, and dance-infused rhythm forever altered the country's sonic landscape.

1. නූතන පොප් සංගීතයේ පුරෝගාමියා: 1970 දශකයේ අගභාගයේදී දක්ෂ කීබෝඩ් වාදකයෙකු සහ සංගීත නිර්මාණකරුවෙකු ලෙස ක්ෂේත්‍රයට පිවිසි රුකාන්ත ගුණතිලක, 1980 දශකයේදී ශ්‍රී ලාංකේය පොප් සංගීතයේ දැවැන්ත පෙරළියක් සිදු කළේය. 1985 දී “බඹර පහස” ගීතය ගායනා කරමින් ගායකයෙකු ලෙස කරළියට පැමිණි ඔහු, ඉලෙක්ට්‍රොනික් සිනිතසයිසර් සහ නූතන තාලයන් *Sinhala* සංගීතයට එකතු කරමින් නව යුගයක් ආරම්භ කළේය.

2. An Era Written in Platinum: Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, Rookantha's artistry dominated the airwaves, defining the emotional soundtrack of a nation. Masterpieces like “*Diganthaye*”, “*Charuka*”, and award-winning cinematic tracks such as “*Suwanda Danee*” (Saptha Kanya) achieved unprecedented commercial and cultural heights, crossing borders to earn international airplay on global platforms like the *World Chart Show*. Paired with his visionary wife and musical partner, Chandralekha Perera, his live concert brand—*Ru Sanda Rae*—became an arena-filling phenomenon, setting the gold standard for stage production, acoustic precision, and audience engagement across Asia, Europe, Australia, and the Americas.

2. ස්වර්ණමය යුගය සහ ජාත්‍යන්තර ගමන: “දිගන්තයේ”, “චාරුකා” සහ “සුවඳ දැනි” වැනි අමරණීය ගීත රුකාන්තයන්ගේ සංගීත වාරිකාවේ සුවිශේෂී සන්ධිස්ථාන වේ. “රු සඳ රු” සජීවී ප්‍රසාංගික අත්දැකීම හරහා ලොව පුරා වෙසෙන ශ්‍රී ලාංකිකයන් දහස් ගණනක් අභියස නම ප්‍රසංග පවත්වමින් දශක ගණනාවක් පුරා අසමසම ජනප්‍රියත්වයක් දිනා ගැනීමට ඔහු සමත් විය.

3. The Living Legacy: Decades into an illustrious career, Rookantha Gunathilake remains more than a legendary performer; he is a living institution. His ability to fuse raw romanticism with cutting-edge production continues to influence generations of contemporary artists. Today, whether commanding international concert halls or composing timeless

melodies in the studio, Rookantha stands as a symbol of artistic innovation and enduring stardom—a true pioneer who taught a nation how to feel, dance, and dream in high definition.

3. ජීවමාන සංගීත උරුමය: දශක හතරකට වැඩි කාලයක් පුරා පැතිර ගිය මෙම සංගීත ස්වර්ණ භූමි රූකාන්ත ගුණතිලක යනු හුදෙක් ප්‍රසංග ශිල්පියෙකු පමණක් නොව, නව පරපුරේ සංගීතඥයන් රැසකට මග පෙන්වූ විශිෂ්ට සංගීත සංකේතයකි.

ESSENTIAL HIT SINGLES | ප්‍රධාන ගීත එකතුව

SONG TITLE (ENGLISH / SINHALA)	RELEASE / PROJECT	DESCRIPTION & SIGNIFICANCE
Suwanda Danee (සුවඳ දැනී)	1994 · <i>Saptha Kanya OST</i>	Sarasaviya Award winner for Best Playback Singer; iconic cinematic ballad.
As Deka Piyana (ඇස් දෙක පියානු)	1990s Hit Single	Evergreen romantic track known for expressive vocal delivery and crowd sing-alongs.
Sanda Pini Diye (සඳු පිණි දියේ)	2005 · <i>Maime Indan Album</i>	Modern pop ballad staple featuring intricate vocal arrangements.
Ananda Rathri (ආනන්ද රාත්‍රී)	1990s Pop Classic	High-energy concert favorite highlighting signature dynamic rhythm.
Aasai Sithin (ආසයි සිතින්)	1980s Pop Hit	Infectious synth-driven beat that established modern Sinhala radio sound.
Bolanda Katha (බොළඳ කතා)	1990s Hit Single	Classic upbeat pop phrasing showcasing unique vocal timbre.

KEY DISCOGRAPHY | ප්‍රධාන ඇල්බම්

ALBUM TITLE	RELEASE YEAR	IMPACT & COMMERCIAL PERFORMANCE
Aadara Rekha (ආදර රේඛා)	1983	Debut solo album release; established his initial footprint as a composer-vocalist.
Bambara Pahasa (බඹර පහස)	1988	Breakthrough hit album; sold over 150,000 physical copies nationwide.
Diganthaye (දිගන්තයේ)	1992	Sold 100,000+ copies; introduced modern synth-pop to Sri Lanka and got international radio play.
Charuka (චාරුකා)	1997	Critically acclaimed release featuring expanded vocal range and rich acoustic/synth fusion.
Maime Indan (මායිමේ ඉඳන්)	2005	Released during the landmark <i>Ru Sanda Rae</i> BMICH concert season.

LIVE CONCERTS & WORLD TOUR ARCHIVE | සජීවී ප්‍රසංග සහ ලෝක සංචාර

Rookantha Gunathilake's flagship concert series, **Ru Sanda Rae (රු සඳ රැ)**, has been staged over **300 times worldwide**, spanning major performance halls across 12 countries:

- **Australia & New Zealand:** Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Perth, Auckland, Christchurch
- **North America:** Los Angeles, New York, Washington D.C., Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal
- **Europe & UK:** London (indigo at The O2), Birmingham, Rome, Milan, Paris, Copenhagen, Stockholm
- **Middle East & Asia:** Dubai (UAE), Qatar, Kuwait, Colombo (Sugathadasa Stadium, BMICH, Nelum Pokuna)

OFFICIAL MANAGEMENT & BOOKING ENQUIRIES

Concert & Booking Management: Management Office
(Colombo & International)

Official Website: www.rookanthagunathilake.com (Upcoming)

Press & Media Inquiries: press@rookanthagunathilake.com

Representation: Live Arena Tours, Private Corporate Events,
Orchestral Shows